

Message Text

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ACTION ABF-01

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STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AGAO
SUBJECT: EXPANDED ROLE OF GAO AND GAO VISITS TO SELECTED POSTS

1. DURING THE TWO-YEAR PERIOD ENDING JULY 30, 1978, GAO
INSPECTION AND AUDIT TEAMS MADE THE FOLLOWING VISITS TO
USG OPERATIONS WITHIN KOREA:

| PERIOD | ORGANIZATION | NO. OF VISITS | AVERAGE LENGTH | AVERAGE SIZE OF TEAM |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 8/76-7/77 | EMBASSY | 1 | 5 WKS | 3 |
| | U.S. FORCES | 8 | 4 WKS | 3 |
| 8/77-7/78 | USAID | 1 | 4 WKS | 5 |
| | U.S. FORCES | 9 | 4 WKS | 3 |

WITH THE PHASING OUT OF THE USAID PROGRAM, THE TREND DURING
THE PAST FEW YEARS HAS BEEN FOR FEWER GAO INSPECTIONS OF
CIVILIAN OPERATIONS AND A SLIGHT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF
INSPECTIONS OF MILITARY OPERATIONS. THE DURATION OF THE
VISIT AND THE COMPOSITION OF THE TEAM ARE DETERMINED BY
THE COMPLEXITY OF THE INSPECTION AND FOR THE MOST
PART APPEAR TO BE APPROPRIATELY STAFFED, BOTH IN TERMS
OF SIZE AND COMPOSITION. THOSE INSPECTIONS WHICH WOULD NOT
REQUIRE AN ELEMENT OF SURPRISE COULD BE MORE EFFICIENTLY
CONDUCTED, IN LESS TIME AND WITH LESS DISRUPTION TO
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THE ORGANIZATION BEING INSPECTED, IF AN ADVANCE QUESTION-
NAIRE WERE SUBMITTED IN SUFFICIENT TIME TO ALLOW FOR
PROPER PLANNING AND COORDINATION.

2. GAO INSPECTION TEAMS NORMALLY MAKE FEW DEMANDS ON
POST'S RESOURCES. SUPPORT REQUIRED IS GENERALLY CON-
FINED TO WORKING SPACE, OFFICE SUPPLIES, VEHICLE SUPPORT

AND TYPING OR SECRETARIAL HELP. OVERTIME PAYMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH VISITS ARE THE EXCEPTION AND NOT THE RULE.

3. GAO REPRESENTATIVES HAVE NOT MADE ANY VISITS TO KOREAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN CONUNCTION WITH INSPECTIONS CONDUCETED DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS.

4. IN ADDITION TO THE FORMAL INSPECTIONS AND AUDITS, A TOTAL OF FIVE VISITS BY SENIOR GAO OFFICIALS WERE MADE, COVERING 30 DAYS AND INVOLVING A TOTAL OF THIRTY PEOPLE.

5. THERE HAS BEEN NO TREND OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS TO EXPAND THE SCOPE OF GAO INVESTIGATIONS NOR HAVE THEY BEEN PARTICULARLY DEMANDING. HOWEVER, WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING TOWARD A GAO INQUIRY INTO ALL ASPECTS OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. GROUND FORCES FROM KOREA. THIS STUDY WILL FOCUS DIRECTLY UPON A CENTRAL ISSUE IN U.S. POLICY IN KOREA AND PROMISES TO BE MORE DEMANDING THAN PAST VISIT. AN ADVANCE TEAM IS NOW IN KOREA AND THIER APPROACH WAS SUCCINCTLY DESCRIBED BY A SENIOR OFFICER WHO MET WITH THEM AS FOLLOWS: "THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY ARE LOOKING FOR BUT ARE SURE THEY WILL RECOGNIZE IT WHEN THEY SEE IT." WHILE TOO EARLY TO BE CONSIDERED A TREND, IF FUTURE STUDIES ARE FOCUSSSED ON EARLY STAGES OF POLICY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONSIDERATION IN KOREA AND NORTHEAST ASIA, WE COULD FIND OURSELVES UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE.

GLEYSTEEN

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